

## **AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION**

Please amend the Specification as follows:

One page 16, lines 1-3,

An abstract view of a portion of a typical standard-cell based design, is shown in FIG. 3. Note that the interconnects extend intracell 310 and intercell 315. The interconnects are also routed in both a vertical 305 and a horizontal direction 310. FIG. 3 is a snapshot of a portion of a typical modern standard-cell based design, depicting two rows of standard cells, and over-the-cell routing of interconnects, assuming 3 layers of metal connection; actual orientation of "horizontal" and "vertical" is design-specific.